from various gateway points in India to Jeddah and back. The per pilgrim total cost estimated by the Government for Haj-2000, Haj-2001 and Haj-2002 was Rs. 28,526/-, Rs. 34,122/-(prov.) and Rs. 37,842/- (prov.) respectively. However, pilgrims paid only Rs. 12000/- during this period and the remaining amount was paid by Government as subsidy, during these 3 years.

(b) The IATA fares in US dollar on Delhi-Jeddah-Delhi sector during the year 2000,2001 and 2002 were US$702, US$774 and US$741 which is equivalent to Rs. 31,460; Rs. 36,340 and Rs. 36,340 respectively.

(c) The haj pilgrims carried to/from Jeddah during the Haj 2000,2001 and 2002 were 71924, 70913 and 70298 respectively.

(d) The haj airfare paid by each pilgrim was Rs. 12000/-during each of the three years 2000-2001 and 2002.

(e) The estimated amount paid/payable to the carriers by Government as subsidy for the Haj-2000, Haj-2001 and Haj-2002 was Rs. 122.54 crore, Rs. 146.12 crore (prov.) and Rs. 163.80 crore (prov.) respectively.

Air ticket booking facilities

†2863. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of district headquarters having booking facilities of one or more airlines; State-wise; and

(b) whether his Ministry would consider provision of booking facilities in the major cities of such States where air services are minimum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.